



## Stanley Wood of Maintenance Div. Dies of Wounds

Son of Foreman Herbert B. Wood Was Member of Combat Engineers

Pvt. Stanley Wood, 21, a member of the maintenance crew of the late George Oliver and the son of Foreman Herbert B. Wood, is reported to have died of wounds received in action in Germany on October 29th. The death of Wood marks the 5th fatality among employees now serving with the Armed Forces.

At the time of his induction, Stanley resided at the home of his parents at 117 Hillside Avenue, South River. He was a graduate of the South River High School and active in the Presbyterian Church of that city.

He had received his basic training at Fort Belvoir, Va., and was later sent overseas as a member of a combat engineers unit. Arriving just before D-Day, Wood saw action in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Wood, and a brother, Pfc. Herbert Wood, who is expected home on furlough shortly, following 3½ years service in the Aleutians.

On behalf of the employees of the Highway Department, THE HIGHWAY extends to these survivors sincerest sympathy for the loss of a son who died defending our way of life.

## A. Lee Grover to Receive Funds for Blue Star Drive

To enable Highway Department employees to participate directly in the development of Blue Star Drive, Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr., has appointed A. Lee Grover to act as receiver within the Department for individual and group contributions to this fund.

Because the Blue Star Drive is a definite step toward roadside beautification, and since so many Highwaymen are now serving in the armed forces of their country, it was felt that individuals and groups of employees should be offered a more direct method of participating.

On his recent visit to Trenton, Captain George McCann, a typical Highway employee now in Iran with the Persian Gulf Command, had this to say about the Blue Star Drive, "One of the most pleasant surprises of my recent visit to Trenton was to learn that the State Highway Department and the Garden Club of New Jersey had already put into effect a plan to honor the veterans of New Jersey by the establishment of a Blue Star Drive.

"Personally I can think of no more practical tribute which could be paid to the men and women of this State who are now serving their country than to beautify a section of one of New Jersey's busiest highways."

Individuals or groups of employees who desire to contribute to this living memorial to our men and women now serving their country should send checks or cash to Mr. A. Lee Grover, State House Annex, Trenton.

### MERRY XMAS

May I take this opportunity of expressing to Highway employees everywhere my most cordial wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. To this I would add the hope that before another year has passed those of our men now serving in the armed forces will have rejoined us in the peacetime pursuit of building better highways.

C. F. Bedwell  
Acting State Highway Engineer.

## Outstanding Valor Wins Bronze Star For Landscape Man

PolICASTRO Cited for Bravery In Action

September 24th is a date that will live long in the memory of Staff Sergeant Joseph J. PolICASTRO, for it was on that day that he and his platoon were fired on by friendly tanks. Fortunately for all involved he acted with extreme



S/Sgt. POLICASTRO

presence of mind and outstanding bravery and as a result of his actions was awarded the Bronze Star.

In the words of the citation which PolICASTRO earned on this eventful day, the action is described as follows: "When the platoon was fired upon by friendly tanks, he skillfully deployed the platoon and by crawling and running under heavy machinegun fire, notified the tanks of their error."

PolICASTRO has been in the service since April, 1941. For the last 9 months he has been overseas, where as a member of a mechanized cavalry unit with the 3rd Army he has participated in General Patton's drive across France and into Germany.

## Record Snowfall Ushers in Winter In North Jersey

Snow Removal Forces Get Early Start

A snowfall of unusual intensity blanketed the northwest portion of the State on November 22nd and thus marked the earliest date on which the snow removal forces of the Highway Department have been called into action in a great many years.

The counties where the heaviest fall was recorded were Warren, Sussex, Morris, Somerset and Passaic. In these locations the depth varied according to the elevation, with the deepest snow occurring on the highest ground. Starting with a mere ground covering in southern Warren and Somerset counties it increased in depth as it went north with an official depth of 26 inches being recorded in High Point Park, Sussex County.

### Heavy Equipment Used

All regular maintenance crews in the territory effected were called into action as well as the services of five contractors' organizations. Foremen Sydney Webster, George Rusling, Edward Koch, LeGrande Ely, John Norris and N. J. Pendergast were in charge of the work.

In High Point Park, Foreman Webster found it necessary to put the heavy caterpillar plows into action to handle the deep drifts, while the huge Walter plow, stored at Dover was called upon to open Routes 23 and 31.

### Arrange Radio Contact

Most of the heavy work of supervising this freak storm fell (Continued on Page 3)

## Christmas Spirit Prevails Under War Conditions

As we celebrate our third wartime Christmas in America, the irony of a world at War and a world pervaded by the Christmas Spirit becomes more grim. The lengthening list of our casualties from the battlefronts is a stark reminder of the evil fruits of greed, lust and inhumanity among men and nations. These lists carry their own message of the sacrificial price which men of good will must pay to restrain men of ill will from attempting to dominate the world by violence.

For us at home and in the State Highway Department, Christmas 1944 will have many poignant reminders. Four hundred and thirty of our employees are still in the Armed Forces serving with patriotic devotion from Leyte Island to the River Rhine. Gold stars beside the names of five former employees of the Department symbolizes the measure of their sacrifice for a world of decency and fair play. Each wartime Christmas but heightens our hope that as another Christmas rolls around, these former employees now in the Armed Forces may return to the Department.

But with our Armed Forces locked in mortal combat upon many battlefields; with hunger, disease, and unrest rampant in certain of the liberated lands, there will be little heart for widespread merriment at this Christmas season. And yet in spite of these disturbed conditions the lights have begun to go on in country after country all over the world. One can believe that even under the most dire wartime distress, some of the ancient customs of the Christmas with the tree and the sharing of gifts, however simple, will be re-enacted. Man is irrepressibly religious; he will not be denied.

There will be no lack of outpouring of the Christmas spirit by those at home for their kin in the Armed Forces. It will afford an opportunity for these countless acts of sharing which make Christmas under wartime conditions a period of glad remembrance.

Our task then upon this season in the midst of War is to keep alive the spirit of Christmas in our hearts and in our lives, and keep it a living reality among our valiant youth in the Armed Forces. One day peace will return. One day men will learn from the Ancient wisdom which is the eternal Christmas message of "Peace on Earth to Men of Good Will."

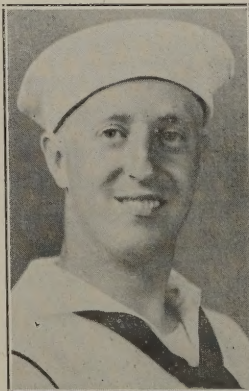
*Spencer Miller, Jr.*  
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

## Richard M. Hall Dies in Explosion In South Pacific

Richard M. Hall, 25, son of Lewis F. Hall, Senior Highway Engineer, was killed as the result of an explosion of undetermined origin aboard the naval repair ship on which he was reving.

Hall, whose naval rating was that of Quartermaster Striker, had been serving with the fleet in the South Pacific for the past year.

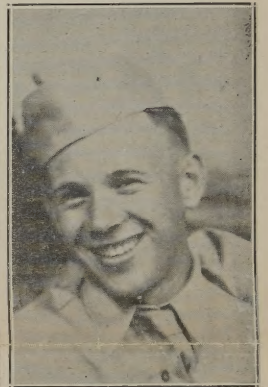
A resident of Morrisville, Pa., Hall was a graduate of the Morrisville High School, and prior to his entering the service had been employed by the Warner Company of that city. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Myrtle Hall, and two children, Linda 2, and Carol 1. To these survivors and to Lew Hall, THE HIGHWAY expresses deepest sympathies on behalf of Highwaymen everywhere.



RICHARD M. HALL

## Conine Wounded During Advance Inside Germany

Word has been received that Arnold L. Conine, a former member of the Hightstown maintenance force of Foreman Fred Yannut, was wounded by enemy fire inside Germany. While certain details are lacking at this time, it is understood that Conine who was wounded in two places in the right leg is now recuperating in an English hospital.



A. L. CONINE

Prior to enlisting in the U. S. Army immediately following Pearl Harbor, Arnold resided in Allentown, N. J. He has been overseas for a period of 18 months and until taking part in the invasion of Normandy he was stationed in England.

Since the invasion Conine has been in constant action in his capacity of truck driver, both in France, Belgium and in Germany. His present address is: T/5 A. L. Conine, 12034512, Dept. of Pts. 4196, U. S. Hospital Plant, A.P.O. 50, c/o Postmaster, New York City.

For those preparing to enjoy Christmas on the home front it would be hard to imagine a nicer gesture than to send a card or letter of greeting to this Highwayman hospitalized so far away from home. He would appreciate receiving a flood of mail from Highway employees everywhere.

### GREETINGS

I am happy to have the columns of THE HIGHWAY made available to me for such a pleasant purpose as wishing each and every one of my fellow employees in the Department a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I realize that for some of us this Christmas will not be any too "Merry," but our ancient form of Christmas greeting can still be used as an expression of good will and friendship.

Let us hope that the coming year will bring a large measure of peace to the world, and see the return of many of our friends and comrades to their former work in the Department. There is good reason to believe that the German war may be ended in 1945; and there can be no harm in hoping that the Japs may be brought to their knees before the New Year is over.

So, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Eugene V. Connett.



# THE HIGHWAY

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In the Interests of Its Employees

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## GREETINGS

To our more than 400 servicemen scattered over the far flung battlelines of the world, and to those employees carrying on the important tasks of building and maintaining the great State Highway System at home, THE HIGHWAY extends most cordial greetings for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## WINTER DRIVING IS DANGEROUS

The National Safety Council has recently released some surprising statistics regarding the hazards of winter driving. Their findings show that in spite of wartime restrictions the accident rate last winter rose 53 per cent above the preceding summer rate. The principal causes of these accidents were poor visibility and slippery surfaces. A tabulation for the first three years of the war disclosed that there have been approximately 984,000 skidding accidents in which 5,200 people were killed.

More than most drivers, the operators of the State Highway Department's great fleet of motor vehicles are subject to the hazards of winter driving. Their jobs take them far afield regardless of weather conditions and although their skill is attested to by safe driving records compiled over the years, the following recommendations should be continually observed.

1. Adapt your driving to prevailing road and weather conditions. On icy or snowy surfaces the car or truck is always nearer the skidding point. Even 20 miles an hour is often too fast in winter.
2. Follow other vehicles at a safe distance. It takes three to eleven times as far to stop on snowy or icy pavements.
3. Slow down extra far in advance of intersections, curves and hills.
4. Be sure to give signals of intended stops or turns even farther in advance.
5. Keep windshield and windows clear and clean. Remember—you must see danger to avoid it.
6. Use tire chains whenever conditions demand them.
7. Slow down at sundown.
8. Give pedestrians plenty of room, and watch out for children on sleds.
9. If a skid starts, turn front wheels in the direction the rear is skidding.
10. Be a skillful, careful and alert driver at all times.

If each licensed operator, whether driving State Highway equipment or his own car, will observe these simple precautions the winter accident rate will be greatly reduced. Let us set an example in safe driving for the other fellow to follow.

## PROJECTS PARAGRAPHS

E. L. MEYER

Nineteen per cent of the Projects Division is now in the Army and Navy, and have seen service from the Aleutians to the Southwest Pacific.

We are very proud of you. Those of us here at home send our kind thoughts and best wishes to all of you, no matter where you may be, with the hope that this war may soon be over and your safe return assured.

E. E. Reed.

Projects men with the 349th Engrs. came home on leave recently and several of them visited the office. Sgt. Joe Aiello was the first to call. Joe is somewhat heavier but as cheerful as ever. He has a brother, Pete, also home on furlough, and a second brother, Tony, in the Philippines. The Aiello get around.

Lt. Colonel Frank Higgins and Lts. Paul Davis and George Kraus also stopped in briefly prior to attending a luncheon given them by the Project Engineers. Sorry, Capt. Tom La Bar was unable to get there.

Jim Harding received a letter from Chief Warrant Officer Ernest G. Topping. It was certainly interesting—especially since we hadn't heard from Ernie since he arrived at Pearl Harbor several months back.

### Primitive Jeep



His Sea Bees left Port Heuneme and went directly to Hawaii. There they had what Ernie called the best job in the Pacific, that of constructing Rodgers Airport, adjoining Hickman Field. They did such a swell job of it that they won themselves a place in the first echelon in the invasion of the Marianas.

They saw the air and naval bombardment of Saipan and then a day or so later after the Marines had cleared the way they landed on Tinian Island and went to work. Ernie flies occasionally and got

## Highway Honor Roll



Electrical

Armin Schleter... Merchant Marine

## News from Our Men In the Service

**Corporal William E. Staeger**, a member of Foreman William Conti's maintenance crew who is now serving overseas with the 3333 Trucking Company participated in the invasion of Southern France. He tells of some of his adventures in the following letter, addressed to Conti.

Hello Bill:

"I guess by this time you must think that I had my right arm shot off, but up to now I'm still in one piece. I should have written you sooner, but somehow or other I just couldn't get around to it. Since leaving Anzio I have seen very little action, but have done a little traveling around.



CORP. STAEGER

"I was in on that invasion of Southern France and that was a picnic compared to the others. My outfit landed in Cavalaire, a small town about halfway between Toulon and Nice. When the Jerries saw all the boats laying off shore, they took off and it took a few days for the infantry to catch up to them. They had quite a few mines spread around and it was kind of ticklish driving for a few days until they were cleared. One of our boys jumped over a wall and

## BE BRIEF

One complaint the maintenance office has of reports of various matters from the field forces is their brevity. Foreman Charlie Weller for instance is a great paper saver and sends in notes on the backs of old letters, scraps of field book paper, etc., and some day we even expect something on a postage stamp. Maybe they've heard the story about the maintenance foreman in one of the western states whose reports on trivial incidents often ran to many tedious pages. As a consequence he was reprimanded with the advice: "For the love of Pete, be brief!" The next report concerned damage to a highway by a cloudburst and read:

"Dear Sir: Where the road was, the river is."

to visit Guam and some of the other islands. He has seen all of the Marianas from the air and is convinced that Tinian is by far the most beautiful of them all.

Topping says that Sam Hann, who is now in the Admiralties, has also been promoted to Chief Warrant Officer.

landed on one and he was the only casualty we had.

"We hauled supplies there for about three weeks and then moved into Marsail'es. What a town that was! We got a royal welcome when we came in and the people treated us swell all the time we were there. Things were kind of expensive in Marsail'es so there wasn't many souvenirs sent home from there. We did some high powered hauling for a few weeks until we were pretty well caught up and then we had a time. The fellows could get passes just about any time they wanted them. It was a sorry looking gang of guys when we had to leave there. We left on the 25th of October and half the people in the neighborhood came down to the boat to see us off.

"Now we are back in this mudhole (Italy) again. Since we have landed it has rained most of the time. We passed through one town over here that was covered with about two feet of water. It held up trucks a little bit but the ducks we have waded right through it. I was hoping to get home by Christmas but by the looks of things I'll be here until the war is finished here.

"Tell all the boys around the place I was asking for them, and drop me a line when you get a chance. Wish them all a merry Christmas and Happy New Year for me."

Bill.

**Lt. Ed Scott** was another recent visitor. He is bound for Camp Beale, Calif., with a stopover at Camp Reynolds, Pa. Ed is glad to leave Fort Dix and looks forward to his West Coast assignment. Hope he likes the rain.

## Helped Bond Sales

**Sgt. Jack Lloyd** was another Highwayman who enjoyed a furlough recently. Among other things, Jack told of an interesting tour which he recently made through southern Georgia.

In charge of a detail of 45 men and much equipment, Sgt. Lloyd spent 20 days in this section demonstrating the use of modern war tools to groups of school children and 4-H Clubs. It was all part of the 6th War Loan Drive and proved to be a very good method of selling bonds.

Jack speaks glowingly of the treatment he and his men received on this march through Georgia, and is now a big booster for Southern hospitality.

## On Xmas Leave

Looking about 20 pounds lighter than when he left us, CM 2/c John T. Carr, Jr., returned from 23 months in the South Pacific to enjoy his first leave in over two years.

Jack has seen a large part of the South Pacific since he embarked from Davisville, R. I., with his Sea Bee outfit. Among the places he has been are New Caledonia, New Hebrides, the Solomons, New Guinea, New Zealand and the Admiralty Islands.

In this trek his outfit has built about everything the navy needs in that theatre of operations, and in many instances this new construction was carried out under intermittent Jap bombing.

Jack's main gripes seemed to center around the rain and mosquitos he encountered. His special duties as battalion censor did not prevent his taking part in the Solomons and Admiralty campaigns.

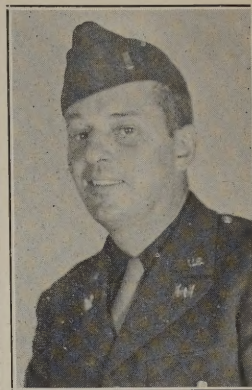


CM 2/c J. T. CARR, Jr.

Carr is the son of Supervisor John T. Carr of the Maintenance Division. After the expiration of his 30 day leave, Jack will report to Davisville, R. I., for reassignment and shortly thereafter embark for a new destination.

## Back from Aleutians

Among the Highwaymen who recently returned after 27 months in the bleak Aleutian Islands was 1st Lt. Charles J. McGinnis of the Maintenance Division.



Lt. CHARLES MCGINNIS

Charlie is home on a 21-day leave during which time he is catching up on the long delayed business of saying hello to his many friends in Trenton. Following this all-too-brief vacation he is scheduled to rejoin his regiment (349th Engineers) at Camp Claiborne, La., where they will undergo intensive training prior to embarking for some undisclosed destination.

McGinnis entered the army as a 2nd lieutenant and was promoted to his present rank before leaving the U. S. Here's hoping the next time he visits Trenton he has captain's bars on his shoulders.

## Test Pilot

**Lieut. Walter Faucett**, who left the Southern Construction Division's main office to fly planes for the U. S. Navy, was a recent visitor in Trenton. Lt. Faucett is now a test pilot for the Naval Air Facilities station at Columbus, Ohio, where each day he puts Hell-divers and Corsairs through their paces before final acceptance.



Lt. WALTER FAUCETT

Walter's first love in planes was the small "flivver" type which he flew around New Jersey prior to the war. Even after flying 2000 H.P. jobs at over 400 miles an hour he occasionally on an off day goes for a ride in one of the little fellows. He apparently doesn't like to always be in a hurry.

Lt. Faucett was a member of the Projects Division before joining the office of Harry D. Robbins, Southern District Engineer. Like other Highwaymen, Walt is looking forward to rejoining the Department at the termination of hostilities.

## Mother Dies at 98

Our sympathy is extended to Supervisor Bill Hunt, whose mother, Mrs. Sarah Hunt, died recently at the age of 98. Prior to her death, Mrs. Hunt had been in remarkably good health and was still in full possession of all her faculties. It is hard to realize what this remarkable span of life had witnessed—born in the year of our war with Mexico brought on by our annexation of Texas in 1846, and a young lady of 18 at the close of the Civil War, she had lived through the terms of 20 presidents and actually saw the United States grow from a virtual agrarian nation to the industrial power she is today.



EQUIPMENT  
ITEMS

JAMES O'ROURKE

As this is the last issue of THE HIGHWAY to be published until after the holidays, the administrators of the Equipment Division, Frank C. Young, Frank M. Devereux and T. Willard Emmons, take this opportunity to extend each and every one of their fellow employees their heartiest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.

Captain Al Baytel, former Fernwood Inspector now stationed at Robbins Field, Ga., has received word that his brother, Lou, a Lieutenant in the field artillery, suffered the loss of his left leg as the result of action during the Italian invasion.

Lt. Baytel, who will be remembered as an accomplished pianist and who often accompanied Al's vocal solos, is a former U.C.C. employee. He is now confined to the army hospital at Presque Island, Maine.

Wednesday evening, Dec. 20th, is the date set for the Social and Welfare Association of the Equipment Division Christmas party. The place is the Locust Cafe in Trenton. The committee composed of John Rochford, chairman, George Smith, Fred Brooks, Clarence Becker, Henry Brackel, Arthur Nelson, Ambrose McLaughlin and Al Getz have planned a chicken dinner, music and refreshments to round out a full evening which will undoubtedly include close harmony on many of the old favorite Christmas carols.

Willard (Poppy) Emmons is busily scanning the train schedules between Trenton and Florida these days. It rather looks like some Florida sunshine for Poppy after the holidays, so here's wishing him a pleasant trip.

Al Rust, Fernwood Mechanic, who has been an active worker in the U. S. Auxiliary Ambulance Corps since its establishment in Mercer County, was recently promoted to captain in charge of transportation for South Central district of New Jersey. In his capacity Al instructs men in the fundamentals of ambulance work, tests drivers, organizes repair units and assigns men to inspection and repair of maintenance equipment. To any who are interested in this work, Captain Rust extends an invitation to join the U.S.A.A.C.

Jack McKeever, Charlie Mernon and John Leadem are wreathed in smiles these days for the following reasons: McKeever has been notified that his son Thomas has been promoted to Chief Gunners Mate following his receiving the Presidential Citation for bravery in action in 7 major South Pacific engagements.

Mernon's daughter and only child, Charlene, won second place honors in the State Oratorical Contest sponsored by the N. J. Forensic League. Her subject was entitled "Freedom Is Not Enough."

Leadem's smile dates back to election day when his brother Ed was elected Sheriff of Mercer County by a large majority. John had a good campaign slogan for his brother, just two words, "we leadem."

Others whose smiles are in evidence are:

Marion Blakely whose son Donald arrived home on leave after serving with the Navy in eleven major engagements in the South Pacific area including the Philippines, Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Marshall Islands and others. He came through without a scratch. . . Bill Weber, who has just received word that his daughter and only child, Edna, has graduated as a registered nurse, having completed her course of training at the Mercer Hospital in Trenton and passing all State examinations.

The wiring system on Ed Johnson's 1931 Chevrolet coupe ought to be in first class condition after the overhauling it received lately when Ed, of all persons, forgot to turn on the switch and wondered why he had no headlights.

Ed McCabe and his bowling team purchased nice white shirts, but evidently forgot how to win games. Reminder to Ed: Good tools are hard to get. Stop leaving your personal tools in garages throughout the State. Someone may like them better than you do, not to mention the worry you are causing others.

Jack Brower has received no

## CONSTRUCTION COMMENTS

Fred C. Claus

## Upper Montclair

An Ode To Embankment  
The dirt shall be carted from here to here,  
And placed at our discretion,  
It shall be dumped and pushed around  
And graded to perfection.

Roger Coupe.

The demon calculator, Morris Radus, was recently among the missing. He took some time off and included the Army-Navy game among other things. His absence left the office with an available calculating machine.

Congratulations to Anthony Marino for 25 years service with the Highway. Don't forget, Tony, that the next 25 will be the hardest.

The day after the Ten Year Club dinner the boys not only had eye trouble, but their feet were dragging.

Harold Kettlewood, the farmer of Pompton Plains, spent Thanksgiving in South Jersey. We are all wondering how Harold's pigs, chickens, goats, etc., which were left at home, got along without their Thanksgiving dinner.

## Trenton

The absence of Harold W. Giffin on several occasions during the past few weeks has been necessitated by out-of-state conferences at both Washington, D. C., and Cincinnati, Ohio, dealing with matters of postwar highway planning, Federal appropriations, etc.

To Lew Hall and members of his family go the deepest and most heartfelt sympathy as a result of the death of his youngest son, Dick, of the U. S. Navy, who was recently reported killed in an accidental explosion in the Pacific area.

At last Margaret Hennessy has admitted what we have been suspecting for a long while. She has changed her name to Mrs. Martin J. Durning, and the lucky fellow is also a Highwayman, being an employee of the Electrical Division. Margaret will be still with us definitely.

## Pleasantville

Karl T. Collins, C. M. 1/c in the Sea Bees, at last reports was stationed in New Guinea, where he has been engaged in airport surveys and layout. He says that he much prefers the Pleasantville area.

Wm. Walmsley, C.P.O. in the Sea Bees, was heard from in Hawaii. He states that his ultimate mailing address will be "The Royal Palace, Tokyo."

Edgar Corson, Gene Gillette, and Ed (Chief) Evans are now making additional surveys on the "West Coast," on the relocation of Route 44 between Paulsboro and Bridgeport. They report more favorable comment on the proposed relocation than has been experienced elsewhere in this area.

Cliff Somers, the chicken fancier of the office, reports an alarming reduction in the size of his flock. Have you counted the ones that appeared on your own table, Cliff?

Ed Baud is the proud father of a baby daughter, Julia, who ar-

word as yet concerning the fate of his son, Ross, who has been missing in action after a raid over Germany. However, his second son, Bert, has just been released from the Army, with a medical discharge, after serving approximately two years.

Harry Whitcomb has been assigned as Inspector in charge of the Dover garage filling the vacancy caused by Tom Doell's transfer to Newark. In his new capacity Harry extends a cordial welcome to all Highwaymen to call on him for any service he may be able to render.

Leon Anton, former chauffeur for H. D. Robbins, who has been on the sick list for nearly two years, is now a patient at Glen Gardner. Leon is continuing to improve and would like to hear from his many friends in the Department. Mail should be addressed to Mt. Kippe, Ward B, Glen Gardner, N. J.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hurlfish upon the occasion of their 45th wedding anniversary on December 13th. May you enjoy many more such events, Harry.

rived late in October. Mother and daughter are reported as doing nicely. Congratulations!

Considerable mystery surrounds the frequent visits of George Schraeder to the environs of Philadelphia. Could this be an affair of the heart?

L. S. Buzby (Buz) reports that he has recently become a grandfather. His daughter, Mrs. Eugene H. Breyne, is the mother, and the child has been named Carol Lee. The father, a sergeant in the 20th Air Force, is now stationed at Geneva, Nebraska.

Frank Carfagno contests the statement that garden crops cannot be grown on beach sand. He reports that his shelves are full of edibles from his home garden in Ocean City.

## Newark

Correspondence to Sgt. Henry G. Meyer should be addressed as follows: Hdg. Co. Shore Brigade, 542nd Reg., APO 920 c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

Tom McDearman and Austin Schenck, recently transferred from the Montclair Office, Survey & Plans, are now hitting their stride in the Newark Office.

We have been informed that Carl Borton's wife, who has been seriously ill for some time, is now on the road to recovery.

Neil MacDougall and his able assistant, H. Otto Fritzsche, are meeting the cigarette shortage by smoking one per hour, on the hour.

A. A. Paul and Harry Stover, Resident Engineers from the country, are now adding their prestige and effort to the work in the Newark Office.

Steve Strait's wife makes either 'darned' good sandwiches or else too many of them—he can hardly wait until lunch time!

Eddie Houghton decided it was a good time to spend his vacation in Florida, and has been visiting his sister there.

Maurice Urdang and Bert Vreeland found fishing quite a pastime along the shore this summer. We wonder if they will continue doing it—the Eskimo way!

In passing, it might be noted that if A. M. Patterson had a plane, he wouldn't have to deviate around the traffic circle when he leaves the Highway Building. Watch the take-off, Pat, when traffic gets heavy again.

Lew Harvey, one of our newly designated resident engineers, has made a hobby of collecting book matches in the past. Now he is accommodating the boys by returning some of them.

Record Snowfall  
Ushers in Winter

(Continued from Page 1)

upon the shoulders of Supervisor A. J. McManus with the exception of Route 31 in the vicinity of Chester where Supervisor Lew Klockner was in charge of operations.

Due to the breakdown of communications in the effected area some difficulty was encountered in contacting the various foremen in charge of snow removal. Commissioner Miller has taken steps to overcome such difficulties in the future by making arrangements with Col. Chas. H. Schoeffel of the State Police whereby the two-way radios of the troopers' cars will be used to maintain communications.

While Superintendent of Maintenance Alex W. Muir is keeping his fingers crossed lest this early storm presage an unusually severe winter, there is cause for satisfaction in the efficient manner in which the job of opening our highways was accomplished.

Administration  
Division

Arthur Egan

While "PEACE ON EARTH" is not a reality this Christmas season, it is a pleasant privilege to be able to extend hearty greetings of good will to all of my friends and associates in our Department, and most particularly to our boys and girls who are doing their part so gloriously in this war to win freedom from tyranny.

A. Lee Grover.

The Administrative Division has five members of the Blood Bank Gallon Club. Paymaster Byron Beans being the latest donor to reach the eight pint mark. Within the next few months three additional members will have made their eighth donations. Congratulations!

Tillie Bielinson is leaving the Department to accept a position with another Department. We are sorry to see Tillie go and we wish her every success in her new work. In addition to the well wishes of her fellow employees she was presented with a very nice going-away gift.

Marven L. Howell attended the Convention of Highway Officials held at Cincinnati, Ohio. After the Convention Mr. Howell continued on to Whitewater, Wis., where he spent part of his vacation.

Glad to see Bill Cramer back on the job after an extended illness. Bill felt that the trip from Washington, N. J., to Trenton each day was too tiresome so he has moved to Trenton.

Sgt. Charles A. Hurley, Jr., of Fort Douglas, Utah, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Hurley, Sr.

Viola Gallagher of Clyde Case's office has been away on vacation. Incidentally Viola's mother has been seriously ill. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Frank Ricketti is another member of the Administration Division returning to work. After almost three years of army life, in which he saw much action and was seriously wounded, Frank is again able to assume his duties with the Department. To him we extend an especial welcome back.

Helen Csanyi of Gene Palmer's staff has been ill at her home. We hope to see her back at her desk soon.

Cliff Wear, our Mileage Director, has returned to work following his annual vacation.

## LAND and LEGAL

ED DRAKE

Greetings of the season to our fellow employees of this Division and other Divisions of the Highway Department. We welcome the opportunity afforded to us through the courtesy of THE HIGHWAY to express our appreciation of your wholehearted cooperation in the work of the Department and of wishing you and yours all the joy and happiness that the present well-being and faith in the future bring.

John W. Aymar  
Frederick Vollmer

Birthday greetings to Ann Manion and Ed Drake. Both celebrated on December 6th, but Ed—who was only Ed—who had a headache on the 7th.

Mike Ward's wife is recuperating from an appendicitis operation. We wish her a speedy and complete recovery.

Bert Ward was the Grand Marshal of the Armistice Day parade at Newark. Bert is a very active worker in veterans' affairs.

Milt Cohen reports that his young son, Sanford, is the recipient of an autograph of Admiral Halsey, Commander of the South Pacific Fleet.

## Quotation of the Month

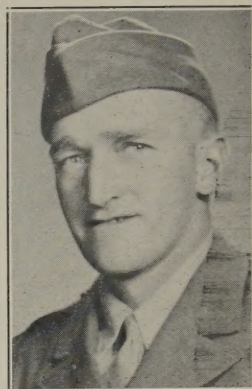
"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the years! Give me light that I may safely tread into the unknown", and he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be better than light and safer than any known way."

ELECTRICAL  
FLASHES

John Kilpatrick

Compliments of the Season and best possible wishes for the ensuing year to all members of the Electrical Division, here and in the Armed Forces.

James L. Hays



ROBLEY CHAMPION

Word from Electrical Division Employees serving in the Armed Forces is always well received. The latest to write is Robley Champion, who was a member of John Thompson's bridge crew before entering the service in October, 1943. Cpl. Champion trained at Fort Belvoir, Va., and arrived in France a few days after "D" day.

He has seen plenty of action as shown by the following experience. Robley and three buddies were separated from their company and ended up behind the German lines, surrounded by a group of the enemy who were giving them all they had. Champion writes that he thought at one time he'd give up, but then made up his mind that if the Germans got him it would not be as a prisoner. After a day and a night Champion and one of his buddies got back to their outfit. The other two were killed.

We've received a Christmas card from Pvt. Arthur "Buddy" Royson in England. . . Edwin "Tex" Ranson, writing from the South Pacific recently, sent his best wishes to all the boys at home. He says he'll be glad to be back—when it's over. . . Alcaid Wright, Sr., has been worried because of the shortage of mail from his son stationed in England. A letter just received from Alcaid, Jr., formerly with Earl Storer's sign crew, reveals the lack of mail is due to the good times he's having. . . Bill Rasmussen tells us that John Krol is somewhere in the Dutch East Indies. The natives there are not as civilized as they are in the other places he's been. The standard article of dress is a razor-sharp knife and the favorite pastime of the natives is looking for handouts from the soldiers. He tells of seeing a group of natives catch a native dog, kill and eat it in ten minutes.

Dick Goldy reports that the Navy keeps him busy. When he gets to Trenton, it's only for a few hours on week-ends. . . Chet Anderson has been notified that his oldest son, Chester W., with the 5th Marines, has been wounded on Peleliu Island in the Pacific. . . Major James L. Hays informed us that he may soon be outranked by his son, James, who was promoted to the rank of Major on November 1. The new major is with an infantry outfit inside the Siegfried line.

Don Henderson, Superintendent of Drawbridges, now in charge of all State Highway Drawbridges, has been spending several days each week at his desk in the Trenton Office.

The following members of the Electrical Division are among those receiving birthday greetings in December: Edward Bloodgood, So. Amboy; David E. Burke, Lawrence Harbor; Charles Coulter, Millville; James W. Gallagher, Highlands; Fred Hoeger, Wortendyke; Samuel Lacey, Bridgeton; Harry Mahler, Jersey City; Michael A. McKenna, Newark; Joseph K. Norton, Swedesboro; James O'Keefe, Jersey City; John Rozanski, Camden; Dolores N. Sica, Trenton, and John M. Willett, South Amboy.



## Maintenance Notes

—GENE BECKNER—

The Christmas of 1944 marks what might be called the Silver Jubilee Christmas of my service as Superintendent of Maintenance. It, therefore, seems peculiarly fitting that I should extend to all my fellow workers in the Maintenance Division my best wishes during this Christmas Season.

I feel, furthermore, that I should express to you my appreciation and thanks for the loyalty and support which you have given me throughout these many years. This loyalty and support has been particularly notable during the difficult days of the war. Without the loyalty and support of all of you, it would not have been possible for us to carry on in the way we have.

With the best of wishes for the Christmas Season and the hope that the coming year will be brighter and happier than years gone by, I am

Sincerely yours,  
Alex W. Muir.

It is a pleasure to welcome back into the fold two veteran Maintenance employees who recently were honorably discharged from military service. Master Sgt. Norman G. Horner, U. S. A., has returned to his duties in the Trenton Office and Chief Petty Officer J. H. Van Benthuyzen has resumed his work in charge of landscape maintenance in the Monmouth County area.

Norm has been in service since Jan. 27, 1941, 11 months before Pearl Harbor, and saw duty at various Army posts throughout the East and Southeast. A specialist in Army clerical work and routine, he aided in setting up headquarters installations at several new military establishments. Just prior to his discharge he had been stationed at Camp Butler, N. C. and Fort McPherson, Atlanta, Ga. Van Benthuyzen enlisted in the Coast Guard on September 1, 1943, and has since been stationed at various ports on the Atlantic Coast. He saw service in coast patrol work and was also engaged as an instructor in marine engineering. Just prior to his discharge he was located on Long Island.

Just one year ago this Xmas, Bill Kilmurray of Foreman Jim Laing's crew, was awarded a certificate of merit for his part in preventing a fatality in an auto accident which he witnessed while in his customary duties. Belated word now comes to us that last summer while on his vacation at Union Beach, Bill again was a savior and rescued a 12 year old boy from drowning when the lad in his stricken with cramps some 200 yards or so off shore.

Word was received by Tony Kuhn that his son, Bill, now a Quartermaster, 2C on a PT boat, was wounded in action while participating in the initial landing of our forces on Leyte Island in the Philippines. Tony received a letter from Bill himself subsequent to the injury in which he explained that he had been struck in the face by a piece of shrapnel but that it wasn't serious and that he had fully recovered and expected to rejoin his ship in the near future. We join with Tony in grateful thanks that this is so. Another participant in the Leyte invasion was Jack Stanley, Jr., son of Supervisor Jack Stanley. Jack, Jr. is assigned to one of the Navy's landing craft. His boat escaped unscathed, but had several close calls.

Bill Morton, of John Rankin's maintenance crew, was off a good part of the month of November on sick leave as the result of an altercation with a dog. He suffered a severe laceration from a dogbite, and was some little while recovering. Another member of this same crew who has been off ill for some time is Weldon Slocum, who prior to his employment in the Maintenance Division worked for the Equipment Division up at Fernwood.

It was wedding bells for Raymond Brink, of Lambertville, who works for Foreman Lew Whelan, on Saturday, December 2nd. Raymond married a Flemington Miss and spent his honeymoon in Atlantic City.

A letter from S/Sgt. A. R. Bein, formerly employed on the landscape maintenance crew of Foreman Howard Sweet, indicates his present whereabouts as England. He was inducted into service on February 11, 1943.

## Major Operation Taken in Stride By Robt. Meeker

The fellow who first said "you can't keep a good man down" must have known Robert A. Meeker personally, for we doubt if any other individual past or present could live up to the phrase more completely.

At an age when most men are but pleasant memories of another generation, this stalwart nonagenarian (he was 90 on September 25th of this year) hid himself off to the Muhlenburg Hospital at Plainfield and submitted to a major operation. After a 3 weeks' convalescence he returned to his desk in the State House Annex as chipper as most men less than half his age.

To a host of well-wishing fellow employees who welcomed him back on December 6th, Mr. Meeker simply said, "Why you'd think a fellow had been away for a long time." And the strange part of it was that he meant just that.

## LABORATORY LINES

—Norm Schaller—

To all Laboratory Employees:

The charm of Christmas lies in the thought we live in the memory of our friends, so this Christmas, more than ever, I wish you Happiness and Bright days ahead.

"Unshaken in a world where conflict rages."

Unchanging in the midst of change and strife, The birth of Christ remains throughout the ages, God's gift to man of power and Life."

Fred H. Baumann.

A glance at the records of the Lab personnel discloses the following: Eighteen of our men are veterans of World War No. 1. They are: J. Carpenter, L. Cartledge, A. Decker, P. Davison, R. Harris, H. Houck, W. Johnson, T. MacRorie, W. Manning, J. Marren, F. McDermott, R. Pfiztinger, M. Scheirer, R. Sigafos, J. Smoliga, J. Uhler, A. Watov, and H. Partington.

Seven of our men are now serving their country in World War No. 2. They are: E. Baumann, G. Goeller, C. Lynn, C. Pollock, J. Reed, S. Salatiello, and R. Toft.

The following men have sons who have served or are now serving their country in the armed services: J. McGrath, F. Baumann, J. Marren, L. Cartledge, R. Sherman, and R. Harris (2).

Another glance at the records brings out the fact that out of 48 male employees in the Lab, 38 are members of the 10-Year Club. Of this number, 17 have a service record of 20 years or more. We also have 6 men who have faithfully served the Department for 25 or more years.

It is interesting to note also that the four girls permanently assigned to the Laboratory, (Peg Beatty, Alice Mayer, Jennie Majeski and Gene Anderson) have an average service record of over 20 years. This information is being submitted under a mild protest from the girls, so with due apology let it be said that they all were very young when they joined the Department.

Our prediction of Jack Carr, Jr. coming home on furlough proved correct. Jack arrived from the South Pacific several weeks ago and will be home on leave until after the first of the year. He looks fine and in spite of the numerous bombing attacks he had undergone, reports that the only casualty he has suffered so far was when he was struck on the head by a falling coconut. The coconut broke. It's good to see Jack around if it is only for a furlough. Just ask Supervisor Carr.

We regret to learn of the death of Dominick Prior's nephew, Pvt. 1st Class Charles J. Guarino, of Trenton, who succumbed recently at the Halloran General Hospital, S. I., as the result of injuries received last February in an accident at the Smoky Hill Army Air Base, Salinas, Jan. Dominick works in Foreman John Faherty's maintenance crew.

## Your M. C. presents— THE LADIES... Bless Them



Lest someone suggest that Pinky is the adopted mascot of our column, or resort to that age-old allegory of cats and ladies, we hasten to explain. You have probably found it to be true that pets and children exhibit their charming little tricks and ways on just those occasions when "Great Aunt Matilda" is not around to be impressed. Pinky is the exception which proves the rule. In the normal life of every cat there is the time he or she has climbed up a telephone pole and waited patiently for the arrival of the local firemen. June Nelson has reason to be proud of Pinky who obligingly waited for her to snap his picture and then came down in true cat fashion disdainful of any assistance.

We want to commend the girls of Mr. Hurley's staff for their fine spirit of cooperation. Never does a birthday go unnoticed. This time it was Madeline "Madge" Kievan who was feted with a luncheon at the Hotel Hildebrecht. Hostesses were Tillie Beilinson, Mary Cunningham, Betty Orosz, Anne O'Connor, Anne Ludwig and Marilyn Siddall.

We are glad to report that Theresa Ryan, after a brief illness, is back at her desk.

The most successful bridge game of this season took place at Ruth Moran's when she had "us gals" over. After throwing "Oulbertson" out of the window, we settled down to what proved to be a most delightful evening.

Leah Matthew Jackles recently entertained Anne Spector at her apartment in Abilene, Texas. Anne, who has just returned, tells us that Leah was a very charming hostess.

There is no end to the capabilities of our girls. Lorraine Finkle who made such a fine showing in her Engineering War Training Course, now adds to her accomplishments the role of administrator of her uncle's estate.

Returning from a shopping tour in Philadelphia we encountered at the Clinton Street Station, Florence King, who had spent an equally wet day in New York.

Also doing the shows in New York on a recent week-end was Helen Tallon.

Florence Millerick became our No. 1 practical joker when she succeeded in selling Tony Kuhn four of his own cigars. When Tony discovered the prank and called her to account, Flo indignantly accused him of being unappreciative. After all, they were ten cent cigars and she had sold them to him at the bargain price of twenty-six cents!

Christmas greetings to you all and best wishes for a happy holiday. Bye now.

## 10 Y. C. Appoints New Committees For Coming Year

Following a meeting of the newly elected officers of the Ten Year Club the following committees were named to carry out the affairs of the organization for 1945. In each case the name of the chairman is given first.

**Entertainment:** E. J. Beckner, Wm. Kirk, Anthony Kuhn, Earl Storer, Ed. McCardell, Geo. Cumberly, John Patrick, Robt. Simon, Ralph Sherman, John Madden, Chas. Hunt.

**Constitution and By-Laws:** Chas. Levine, Richard Snyder, P. H. Burch, Chas. Fernley, Geo. Hurley, T. W. Emmons, F. C. Claus.

**Investigating:** E. J. Palmer, Clyde Case, Harry Hill.

**Budget:** R. G. Martin, Clyde Case, John Egan, Ed. Drake.

**Publicity:** Herman Kramer, Frank Reddan.

**Nominating:** J. H. Carpenter, Frank Devereaux, Harry Fowler, Norman Horner Velt Sams, F. C. Dileo, Clifford Wear.

**Membership and Dues:** Arthur Egan, Frank Skillman, Flavin Ireton, Wm. Wharton, J. H. Carpenter, H. Johnson, S. Bullock, O. Rogers, Ed. McCardell, Ed. Knorr, Neil MacDougall, Howard Rigby.

**Highlights:** A. J. Lichtenberg, R. Callahan, M. Ludasy, Sven Hedin, Al Cohen, H. Beilinson, Kenneth Craft.

**Service Awards:** Wm. Dix, Cyrus Card, H. Kramer, Chris Kucker, E. J. Palmer, W. H. Spencer.

**Welfare:** A. J. Lichtenberg, Cyrus Card, Thos. Stephan, J. F. Brower, Jos. Hunt, Wm. Ryan, Chas. Fernley, Chas. Hunt, Chas. Levine, W. Wildblood, F. Ireton.

## PLANNING SURVEY

—JOHN CHRISTIANO—

The Christmas season is an opportune time to tell you that in spite of the difficulties we have at the present time on account of the war conditions, you can look back on a year of work well done. Let us hope that those who temporarily have left us to speed the end of the war will return soon with their work finished, so that all of us at the end of next year will be able to look back on even greater accomplishments. With best wishes for a Happy Christmas as well as a Happy New Year to you all.

Sigvald Johannesson

Lillian Patania is the envy of the girls in the Newark Office since she received those silk stockings from the boy friend in South America.

Joe Natale is quite a busy man. Besides being a member of three bowling teams, he is the Thespian who took one of the leads in "The Cat and the Canary" which recently played two performances at the Roselle High School.

Charlie Freeman has two sons in the service. One is with Admiral Halsey's fleet and has been through most of the naval engagements in the Pacific.

We are happy to report that Miss Becker has recovered from the strep throat which laid her low while on vacation.

Welcome to Morgan Hand who has taken up his residence in East Orange after living for many years in Ocean City. Morgan is a coin collector and has over 1000 silver dollars. Quite a nice way to save.

Pat Fleming is glad to tell the world that his son who saw so much action during three years in the Pacific is now an instructor at the Sampson Naval Training Station.

We called it right in the case of Johnny Annucci. He became engaged on Thanksgiving Day. This reminds us that Joe Natale will be our sole bachelor unless those noontime phone calls have significance.

Note to Traffic and Bridge Divisions: Press Northrup is recuperating from an operation at the U. S. Marine Hospital in Stapleton, La. I, while Anthony Amabile is doing likewise at Boston.

## BRIDGE BRIEFS

—A. J. LICHTENBERG—

I welcome this opportunity to extend to my associates in the Bridge Division, the greetings of this inspirational Holiday Season. To those who are serving in the armed forces, to those who as civilians are temporarily engaged in essential activities directly connected with the war effort and to those who have been continuously employed by the State during these abnormal years, I express the wish that we all may soon be together again in the performance of our humble contribution to the post-war reconstruction period, in the best tradition of the Bridge Division. And to those whose hearts yearn for dear ones who are scattered throughout the world in the hazardous mission of safeguarding our way of life, may I pray for their early and safe return to enjoy the normal pursuits of a democracy at peace with the world in a spirit of good-will toward all mankind.

Morris Goodkind.

Dashing Dave Lawshe the Lt. C. B. Was recently shot by Cupid at sea.

That cute little archer with arrows and bows, Has bagged old Rufus for a girl named Rose.

Congratulations, wedded bliss and good cheer. Just forget all those babes you made cry in their beer.

J. M. F.

BRIEFS: Lieut. David R. Lawshe married Rose Kalapis of Trenton in Norfolk, Va., on November 11th and at this writing is enjoying a leave in New York preliminary to an assignment in Florida. J. J. Sheenan announced the birth of a granddaughter on Dec. 1st. Albert E. Lee has entered the St. Joseph Hospital in Paterson for an operation. He would appreciate a few cheery letters.

John H. Patrick and Mrs. Patrick celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary on Dec. 8th. Coincidentally "Pat" announced the marriage of his daughter Ethel who is a Pharmacist's Mate 2nd Class in the Waves to Louis W. Keesling of Hollywood, an Electrician's Mate in the Merchant Marine. The marriage took place in San Francisco November 17th. Juan Delgado visited the bridge office on business last month and with him came that agreeable, scintillating and effervescent personality that so endears him to us. Pictureque speech by Wilbur Spencer "We didn't know whether to call a cab or the corner." Bridge Division annual dinners will be resumed with a gala affair at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, February 20th. We regret the passing of Philip J. Costello, formerly a Bridge Construction Inspector who died on Nov. 24th in Haddonfield.

C. D. Weller, R. E. Simon and Sven Hedin victors in a battle with the cold germ. Paul Geiser with the Signal Corps Laboratories at Fort Monmouth. Sam Rankin still enthused about the Navy work in Brooklyn. Pat McCullough in Philadelphia for U. S. Maritime Commission. Mortimer Smith looking affluent at Ten Year Club Annual. Morris Goodkind participating in deliberations of Bridge Committee of A.A.S.H.O. in Cincinnati recently. The Bridge Division Club authorized a \$25.00 Victory Bond award for the most meritorious suggestion in the Departmental Suggestion Plan.

Harry Bergen on Route 24 bridges. George A. Hoffmann on his family back from Florida. M. L. Vail on bridge construction in Ocean County. C. H. Spence, J. J. Krieg and H. R. Gabriel on the Route S-3 Berry's Creek and Route 3 Southbound over S-3 westbound jobs. Too good to miss "Tomorrow's Cars and Roads" by Robert Moses, in our reference library.

"Doctor, how do you really tell if a person is insane?" "Oh, we merely ask him a few ordinary questions which ordinary people can answer correctly." "What type of question?" "Well," replied the alienist. "This is the sort of thing. Captain Cook made three voyages round the world and died on one of them. Which was it?" "Oh, I say," objected the questioner. "I think that's a bit steep. I'm not very good at history."